

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY WARSAW IMMEDIATE

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FOR USIA DEPUTY DIRECTOR KOPP AND DEPUTY ASSISTANT

DIRECTOR MALONE

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT - MILICEVIC VISIT TO USIA

1. FSFA ASSISTANT SECRETARY MILICEVIC, ACCOMPANIED BY
STARCEVIC AND PRESS COUNSELOR NOVAKOVIC, CALLED ON USIA DIRECTOR
KEOGH JANUARY 14.

2. IN COURSE OF MEETING DIRECTOR KEOGH RAISED AFN INTERFERENCE
AND SARAJEVO USIC OPENING. ON AFN MATTER, KEOGH REGRETTED
EXISTENCE INTERFERENCE WITH RADIO SARAJEVO AND WELCOMED WILLING-
NESS OF YUGOSLAV FEDERAL AUTHORITIES TO ENGAGE WITH US IN
TECHNICAL TESTS. HE EXPRESSED HIS SATISFACTION THAT
DEPUTY DIRECTOR KOPP WOULD BE RECEIVED BY DEPUTY FOREIGN
SECRETARY MOJSOV AND IN THIS CONTEXT BROUGHT UP QUESTION OF
SARAJEVO USIC OPENING, VOICING CONCERN THAT THE TWO QUESTIONS WERE
APPARENTLY BEING LINKED BY BOSNIAN AUTHORITIES. DIRECTOR NOTED
EMBARRASSMENT THAT WOULD RESULT TO USG IF, AFTER HAVING ENCOURAGED
US TO PROCEED WITH SARAJEVO PLANS, AND HAVING DISPATCHED
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SENIOR USG OFFICIAL TO PRESIDE AT OPENING, WE WERE NOW TO FIND

THAT CENTER COULD NOT BE OPENED.

3. MILICEVIC AGREED THAT ISSUES SHOULD NOT BE LINKED AND SAID THAT THERE WERE NO POLITICAL IMPEDIMENTS TO APPROVAL OF CENTER'S

REGISTRATION. FSFA, HE STATED, WOULD LIKE TO SEE BOTH PROBLEMS RESOLVED. HE NEVERTHELESS WISHED TO POINT OUT SERIOUSNESS OF AFN ISSUE, PARTICULARLY IN EYES OF BOSNIAN AUTHORITIES, "WHOM WE CAN'T JUST PUSH AROUND." MILICEVIC AGREED, HOWEVER, IMMEDIATELY TO INFORM FSFA OF VIEWS EXPRESSED BY DIRECTOR, BUT CONCLUDED REMARKS BY RESTRESSING YUGOSLAVIA'S "EXCLUSIVE RIGHT" TO USE SARAJEVO FREQUENCY.

4. MILICEVIC ALSO RAISED TREATMENT OF YUGOSLAVIA IN U.S. PRESS AND DIRECTOR OFFERED STANDARD REPLY. DIRECTOR INFORMED MILICEVIC OF PLANNED ELIMINATION VOA SLOVENE BROADCASTS AND ASSURED HIM THAT DECISION WAS BASED EXCLUSIVELY ON BUDGETARY CONSIDERATIONS. MILICEVIC AND COMPANIONS THANKED DIRECTOR FOR INFORMATION AND ASSURANCES.

5. COMMENT: SENSE OF MEETING WAS THAT REGISTRATION WOULD BE APPROVED IN TIME FOR A JANUARY 23 OPENING, BUT THAT ISSUE IS BEING TURNED INTO A CLIFFHANGER BY YUGOSLAVS TO IMPRESS ON US IMPORTANCE OF AFN ISSUE TO THEM.

6. FOR KOPP FROM S IRLEY: SPOKE WITH MRS. FOSTER AFTERNOON JANUARY 14. SHE REPORTS THAT PAUL IS THRIVING AND DELIGHTED WITH NEW-FOUND KINDERGARTEN FRIENDS.

DECONTROL JANUARY 14, 1976. KISSINGER

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